

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants: ALAN JAMES MAPLE AND IAN MARTIN LENNARD  
For: LOCK MECHANISM  
Docket No. 70933-0162

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The reference listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A is submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.99 in accordance with Applicants' duty of disclosure as set forth at 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Also enclosed herewith is a copy of the European Search Report issued in the corresponding PCT patent application. This communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The submission of the accompanying information is not intended to imply that more pertinent prior disclosures may not exist, nor is it an admission by Applicants that any one or more of the documents submitted herewith form a part of the scope and content of the prior art.

Respectfully submitted,  
ALAN JAMES MAPLE ET AL.

Dated: September 22, 2006

/Joel E Bair/  
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616-742-3500

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> ( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Application Number		
	Filing Date		
	First Named Inventor	Alan James Maple	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number		70933-0162	

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Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code <sup>1</sup>	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	1	5876076		1999-03-02	Kosky et al.	Column 8, line 22 - column 9, line 61; Figures 5-7; Claims 1, 13, 15, 16, 18	
	2	4766419		1988-08-23	Hayward et al.	Column 3, line 22 - column 5, line 34; Figures 1-7; Claims 1, 13, 17, 18	

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	1	2 353 425	GB		2001-02-21	Alan James Maple	The whole document; Claims 1, 18	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2	1 012 799	BE		2001-03-06	Manshoven Hugo	Figures 1-3; Claims 1, 10-13, 18	<input type="checkbox"/>

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
( Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number		
Filing Date		
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Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number	70933-0162	

	3	2 144 483	GB		1985-03-06	Waitrose Limited	Figures 1-11; Claims 1, 14	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<sup>1</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.USPTO.GOV](http://www.USPTO.GOV) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>2</sup> Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>3</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>4</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>5</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
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Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Alan James Maple
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	70933-0162

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):

- ☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).

**OR**

- ☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ See attached certification statement.
- ☐ Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.
- ☒ None

**SIGNATURE**

A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.

Signature	/Joel E Bair/	Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2006-09-20
Name/Print	Joel E. Bair	Registration Number	33356

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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